

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 23, 2009

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 733**

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**Introduced by Senator Leno**

February 27, 2009

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An act to add Section 13963.1 to the Government Code, relating to grants for trauma centers, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 733, as amended, Leno. Crime victims: trauma center grants.

The California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board administers a program to assist state residents to obtain compensation for their pecuniary losses suffered as a direct result of criminal acts. Payment is made under these provisions from the Restitution Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the board for these purposes.

This bill would authorize the board to administer a program to award up to ~~an unspecified amount~~ *\$5.1 million* in grants, annually, to trauma centers, as defined, with the amount of each grant being no more than ~~an unspecified amount~~ *\$1.7 million*. By expanding the scope of services for which continuously appropriated funds are available, this bill would make an appropriation.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 13963.1 is added to the Government
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 ~~13963.1. (a) The board shall administer a program to evaluate~~
- 4 ~~applications and award grants to trauma centers.~~

1     13963.1. (a) *The Legislature finds and declares all of the*  
2 *following:*

3     (1) *Without treatment, approximately 50 percent of people who*  
4 *survive a traumatic, violent injury experience lasting or extended*  
5 *psychological or social difficulties. Untreated psychological*  
6 *trauma often has severe economic consequences, including overuse*  
7 *of costly medical services, loss of income, failure to return to*  
8 *gainful employment, loss of medical insurance, and loss of stable*  
9 *housing.*

10    (2) *Victims of crime should receive timely and effective mental*  
11 *health treatment. The Trauma Recovery Center at San Francisco*  
12 *General Hospital/University of California, San Francisco, in*  
13 *partnership with the state victim compensation program, has*  
14 *developed a comprehensive model of care that is cost effective and*  
15 *serves crime victims in a timely manner. This model has been*  
16 *designed as an alternative to the current model under which victims*  
17 *must find and obtain services for which they are eligible for*  
18 *reimbursement from the Victim Restitution Fund administered by*  
19 *the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims*  
20 *Board. The Trauma Recovery Center has increased access for*  
21 *crime victims to these funds and it has done so in a cost-effective*  
22 *manner.*

23    (3) *Given the success of this model program, the board shall*  
24 *replicate this model of care and administer a program to evaluate*  
25 *applications and award grants to trauma recovery centers.*

26    (b) The board shall only award a grant to a trauma center that  
27 meets both of the following criteria:

28    (1) The trauma center demonstrates that it serves as a community  
29 resource by providing services, including, but not limited to,  
30 making presentations and providing training to law enforcement,  
31 community-based agencies, and other health care providers on the  
32 identification and effects of violent crime.

33    (2) Any other related criteria required by the board.

34    (c) The board may award grants totaling up to ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ *five million*  
35 *one hundred thousand* dollars ~~(\$\_\_\_\_\_)~~ *(\$5,100,000)* per year, with  
36 each grant no more than ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ *one million seven hundred thousand*  
37 *dollars* ~~(\$\_\_\_\_\_)~~ *(\$1,700,000)*. All grants shall be funded only from  
38 the Restitution Fund.

39    (d) The board may award a grant providing funding for up to a  
40 maximum period of ~~two~~ *three* years. Any portion of a grant that

1 a trauma center does not use within the specified grant period shall  
2 revert to the Restitution Fund. The board may award consecutive  
3 grants to a trauma center to prevent a lapse in funding. The board  
4 shall not award a trauma center more than one grant for any period  
5 of time.

6 *(e) A prudent reserve of \_\_\_\_\_ million dollars (\$\_\_\_\_\_) shall*  
7 *remain in the Restitution Fund at all times. If at any point the*  
8 *Restitution Fund drops below this amount, renewal funding for*  
9 *the trauma centers may be suspended.*

10 ~~(e)~~

11 *(f) The board, when considering grant applications, shall give*  
12 *preference to a trauma center that conducts outreach to, and serves,*  
13 *both of the following:*

14 *(1) Crime victims who typically are unable to access traditional*  
15 *services, including, but not limited to, victims who are homeless,*  
16 *chronically mentally ill, of diverse ethnicity, members of immigrant*  
17 *and refugee groups, disabled, or who have severe trauma-related*  
18 *symptoms or complex psychological issues.*

19 *(2) Victims of a wide range of crimes, including, but not limited*  
20 *to, victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, physical assault,*  
21 *shooting, stabbing, and vehicular assault, and family members of*  
22 *homicide victims.*

23 *(g) The trauma center sites will be selected by the board through*  
24 *a well-defined selection process that takes into account the rate*  
25 *of crime and geographic distribution to serve the greatest number*  
26 *of victims.*

27 ~~(f)~~

28 *(h) A trauma center that is awarded a grant shall do both of the*  
29 *following:*

30 *(1) Report to the board at the end of the grant period annually*  
31 *on how grant funds were spent, how many clients were served*  
32 *(counting an individual client who receives multiple services only*  
33 *once), units of service, staff productivity, treatment outcomes, and*  
34 *patient flow throughout both the clinical and evaluation*  
35 *components of service.*

36 ~~*(2) Assist the board with any forms or data collection that will*~~  
37 ~~*enable the board to qualify for federal reimbursement of the costs*~~  
38 ~~*of providing services to crime victims at the trauma center.*~~

39 *(2) In compliance with federal statutes and rules governing*  
40 *federal matching funds for victims' services, each center shall*

1 *submit any forms and data requested by the board to allow the*  
2 *board to receive the 60 percent federal matching funds for eligible*  
3 *victim services and allowable expenses.*

4 ~~(g)~~

5 (i) For purposes of this section, a “trauma center” provides,  
6 including, but not limited to, all of the following resources,  
7 treatment, and recovery services to crime victims:

8 (1) Mental health services.

9 (2) Assertive community-based outreach *and clinical case*  
10 *management.*

11 (3) Coordination of care among medical and mental health care  
12 providers, law enforcement agencies, and other social services.

13 (4) Services to family members and loved ones of homicide  
14 victims.

15 (5) A multidisciplinary staff of clinicians that includes  
16 psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers.